खरीद के लिए गैर सरकारी संगठनों तथा अन्य संगठनों को ब्याज मुक्त ऋण देना शामिल है।

Import of maize

1644. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to import four lakh tonnes of maize for building a buffer stock for the poultry industry;

(b) whether the domestic production of maize does not meet the requirement of maize in the country; and

(c) if so, the details of action taken or propose to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The production of maize is considered adequate to meet the requirement in the country. However, the following steps have been taken to facilitate availability of maize to poultry sector at reasonable prices:

(1) State Government have been requested to intervene to prevent hoarding of maize by traders.

(2) NAFED has been asked to procure maize locally and make it available for poultry sector at reasonable prices.

(3) Steps are being taken by Government for increasing the production of maize in the country.

आम की नई किस्म का विकास

1645. **श्री विश्वासराव रामराव पाटिल**: क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या कृषि केन्द्रों में आम की एक ऐसी किस्म विकसित की गई है जिस पर सम्पूर्ण वर्ष के दौरान फल आता रहता है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री के० सी० लेंका): (क) जी, नहीं।

(ख) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता।

Rural agricultural economy

1646. SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATARAMAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether rural agricultural economy has shown an upward trend or downward trend;

(b) the details thereof and the remedy sought in this regard; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to boost the morale of agriculturists?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The rural agricultural economy has registered an upward trend during the period 1986-87 to 1990-91.

(b) The gross value added of agricultural sector (at 1980-81 prices) has gone up from Rs. 48995 crores in 1986-87 to Rs. 62048 crore during 1990-91 showing a rise of 26.6 per cent. While the value of output of crop husbandry has gone up by 23.6 per cent, the value of output of animal husbandry sector has risen by 19.0 per cent. There have been significant increases in output of other sub-sectors of the rural agricultural economy as well.

(c) The growth in rural agricultural economy is attributable to several measures taken by the Government. Important among these are: remunerative prices for agricultural produce to farmers, application of modern technology, extension of irrigation facilities, water shed management, recovery of waste lands, land improvements, afforestation, employment programmes, emphasis on development of rural non-farm sector, etc.